

Emergency Responder



WASHINGTON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

WASHINGTON MILITARY DEPARTMENT

May-June 2003

Cell number display now available in many counties

Wireless Phase I coverage that automatically displays the wireless phone's call back number and cell tower from which the call originated is now available in some parts of Washington.

The Federal Communications Commission mandated that all wireless phone carriers must provide the Automatic Number Identification (ANI) for all 911 wireless calls received at Washington state's 73 Public Safety Answering Points within six months of the county request for ANI service.

FCC rules also direct that wireless phone carriers provide Wireless Phase II service, which requires wireless phone carried to provide longitude and latitude information within 50 to 100 meters of a caller's location, by Dec. 31, 2005.

Washington's 39 counties requested ANI as of Dec. 31, 2002, from the following wireless carriers: AT&T Wireless, Cricket Communications, Cingular Wireless, Inland Cellular, Nextel, Qwest Wireless, Rural Cell, Sprint PCS, T-Mobile USA, US Cellular and Verizon Wireless.

As of June 30, 2003, the Phase I wireless coverage by carrier was as follows:

- **AT&T Wireless:** Adams, Clallam, Clark, Grant, Island, Jefferson, King, Lewis, Pacific, San Juan, Snohomish, Spokane, Thurston, Walla Walla, Whatcom and Yakima.
- **Cingular Wireless:** Adams, Clallam, Franklin, Grant, King, Lewis, Lincoln, Stevens, and Thurston.
- **Cricket Communications:** Spokane.

Continued on page 4—



A car burns on the south Seattle site that simulated the blast zone of a radiological dispersal device that exploded May 12 as part of the congressionally-mandated Top Officials 2 exercise. Exercise venues included Seattle, Chicago, Washington, D.C., and Ottawa and Vancouver, Canada. (City of Seattle photo)

Work advances on terrorism, homeland security grants

Washington Emergency Management Division's terrorism and homeland security program continues to set a very busy pace to meet a series of grant application deadlines for federal homeland security and domestic preparedness funds. The following is a status of these grants as of June 24:

2002 State Domestic Preparedness Program (SDPP):

Equipment (\$5,998,000):

- Equipment distribution agreements returned from each county and orders will be placed soon.

Exercises (\$278,000):

- Regional exercise plan is still under development.

2003 State Homeland Security Grant Program – Phase I (SHSGP-I)

This grant has a 45 day obligation requirement that falls on June 20, 2003.

Equipment (\$7,926,000):

- Purchased equipment on June 20, 2003, for local jurisdictions and the Washington State Patrol.

Training (\$594,000):

- \$200,000 sub-granted to existing training academies to institutionalize the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) Awareness Level training within the state.
- \$354,000 will be utilized by the state to establish on-line CBRNE training courses.
- \$40,000 retained to support coordination of CBRNE training courses.

Exercises (\$1,981,000):

- \$204,000 to each of the nine Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Districts (RHSCD) for one tabletop and one functional exercise in addition to

Continued on page 2—

Work continues on homeland security, terrorism grants

Continued from page 1—

funding for a regional coordinator to support the planning and conduct of the exercise program.

- EMD will retain \$85,000 to support exercise program.
- \$60,000 to be retained at state level to support functional exercise associated with Terrorism Annex.

Planning/Administration (\$793,000)

- \$300,000 sub-granted to local jurisdictions for needs assessment.
- \$100,000 to conduct a statewide critical infrastructure study.
- \$393,000 retained by EMD to support Terrorism/Homeland Security Program.

2003 State Homeland Security Grant Program – Phase II (SHSGP-II)

This grant provides supplemental homeland security funding for first responder preparedness and critical infrastructure protection. The 45 day obligation requirement mandates that first responder funds are to be obligated by July 28, 2003.

Critical Infrastructure Protection reimbursement (\$3,989,000):

- EMD has solicited reimbursement requests from cities, counties, tribal governments and state agencies for critical infrastructure protection costs associated with the wartime period of heightened threat (3/17/03-4/16/03.)
- Funds not used for this period of heightened threat may be retained for future periods of threat.

First Responder Preparedness (\$25,928,000):

- EMD will retain a portion of the \$5,185,600 available for the state and the remainder will be awarded to Washington State Patrol for communications equipment.
- \$20,742,000 will be sub-granted to the Association of Washington Cities and Counties (\$240,000 for overall homeland security study) and the nine RHSCDs to be used within the four allowable categories (equipment, exercise, training and planning/administration.) Each county and region was allocated a \$60,000 base amount and then a percentage based on population. The funding breakdown is as follows:
Region 1: \$3,234,575; Region 2: \$1,204,061; Region 3: \$1,596,407; Region 4: \$1,651,049; Region 5: \$2,215,330; Region 6: \$5,313,431; Region 7: \$1,098,018; Region 8: \$1,821,260; Region 9: \$2,368,270.

Urban Area Security Initiative – II

Details are still being worked out on the \$18.18 million urban area security grant that was announced May 15 by Gov. Gary Locke and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

These funds will be made available to the City of Seattle and its contiguous counties and mutual aid partners through the Urban Area Security Initiative-II (UASI-II). This funding is in addition to the \$11.28 million made available from the first round of Urban Area Security Initiative funding.

This latest grant seeks to enhance and quantify the nation's preparedness to combat terrorism and to address the unique equipment, training, planning, and exercise needs of large high-threat urban areas.

Maj. Gen. Timothy J. Lownberg, the adjutant general and Washington Military Department director, will be the state administering agent for this grant.

Benton County names Cobb as interim EM director

Richland police Capt. Mike Cobb was named interim director in May for Benton County Emergency Management Services.

Cobb, a 21-year veteran at Richland, replaced Lorlee Mitzell, who resigned last April.

Cobb said a consultant has been hired to search for a new director, adding that the selection process could take up to six months to be completed.

Seven jurisdictions receive planning grants

Seven Washington jurisdictions will receive mitigation planning grants from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) pre-disaster mitigation program. The grants, announced in May, total \$248,375.

Grants were awarded to Mason and Chelan counties; the cities of Gold Bar, Mercer Island, Sultan and Kenmore; and the Sumner School District. Each jurisdiction must provide a 25 percent match.

Washington is one of 12 states to receive funds for developing multi-hazard mitigation plans through the FEMA program.

The mitigation section of the Washington Emergency Management Division's Mitigation, Analysis and Plans Unit managed the grant application and evaluation process.

Legislators pass state building code changes

State legislation that takes effect July 27 will make the first major changes in Washington's building code in six years. Passed in the 2003 session, the new code follows the State Building Code Council's recommendation to adopt international building codes statewide.

The new law will implement state-of-the-art earthquake hazard analysis and enable the state to participate in the development of national seismic codes. In the 1997 code, both the seismic map and method of calculating seismic resistance were out-of-date.

Failure to adopt the new statewide standard would have left the state out-of-compliance with the federal Disaster Management Act of 2000 and jeopardized the state's future eligibility for disaster relief.

The law will adopt by reference the International Building, the International Residential Code, the International Mechanical Code and the International Fire Code.

Fire mobilization transfers from EMD to WSP in July

Transition of the state's Fire Mobilization functions begins July 1 following Gov. Gary Locke's approval May 20 of the bill that transfers the program from Washington Emergency Management Division (WEMD) to the Washington State Patrol (WSP).

Senate Bill 5935 also would establish a new law enforcement mobilization policy and plan, modeled on the fire mobilization program. Both mobilization systems will utilize a state-wide ordering procedure to dispatch fire and law enforcement personnel to provide emergency incident support to local jurisdictions.

Fire mobilization financial supervision and oversight will transition July 1 from WEMD to the WSP.

Operational control of the fire mobilization system will transfer July 27 from the state adjutant general to the WSP. After July 27, local jurisdictions still will request fire mobilization support through the state duty officers at Camp Murray, and State Patrol Chief Ronal Serpas will be the approval authority.

The State Emergency Operations Center also will continue to activate to coordinate overall state agency support when the WPS Chief orders a fire mobilization.

EMD and WSP plan to meet to ensure a smooth transition of the fire mobilization program.

No HSAS change for July 4

No change is anticipated over the July 4 holiday in the national homeland security advisory system, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) said. The current homeland security level is yellow.

A July 1 DHS bulletin stated that intelligence information and assessments show no specific, credible information identifying terrorist intentions to attack July 4 celebrations or venues.



Five of the nine-member Emergency Management Division team celebrate their finishes in the 2003 Sound to Narrows 12-kilometer run and walk event in Tacoma June 14. The runners are (l-r) Ray Cross, Dan Banks, Allen Jakobitz, Dave Griffith and Jerry Jensen. Other team members were Betty Kobe, Blessing Guillermo, Diane Offord and Jim Schoonover. (Photo by Mary Jensen)

Active fire season predicted for Pacific Northwest

Despite cooler, damp weather in late June, wildfire forecasts predict a very active fire season for the coming summer and fall in the Pacific Northwest. Fire officials say the potential for large fires will rise significantly as the potential for dry lightning increases in July and August.

These predictions were underscored by the National Weather Service's (NWS) mid-June fire weather readings that showed forest stands were much drier than normal. Conditions in eastern Washington already were at the point where major fires could break out, according to the survey.

Washington's high forest fire potential results from a below normal mountain snowpack, early spring rains that produced abundant amounts of grass and brush to fuel fires, and dry weather in late May and early June, fire officials say.

Another troublesome sign for the coming Fourth of July holiday, small fires already have been ignited in late June on both sides of the Cascade Mountains by the careless use of fireworks and incendiary rockets.

Fire grants awarded to three Washington fire districts

Three Washington fire districts will receive emergency preparedness and response grants from the federal 2003 Assistance to Firefighters program.

The grants, administered by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, will help local fire departments purchase firefighting equipment, fund firefighter health and safety, enhance emergency medical services and conduct fire prevention and safety programs. Grant awards for Washington are as follows:

- Klickitat County Fire District No. 13, Appleton: \$67,500, firefighting vehicle.
- Skagit County Fire District No. 17, \$38,866, fire operations and firefighter safety.
- Thurston County Fire Protection District No. 16, Centralia, \$225,000, firefighting vehicle.

Ceremonies honor Peterson, Crocetti retirements

Special ceremonies honored the retirements of two veteran Washington Emergency Management Division (WEMD) staffers in May and June.

Mary Alice Peterson was feted at a May 31 dinner to mark her completion of 24 years of state service. She had been the program manager since 1999 in the Tri-Cities for the fixed nuclear facility program involving the U.S. Department of Energy's Hanford Site and the Columbia Generating Station nuclear power plant.

Peterson had worked in the fixed nuclear facility program since 1983, serving as a planner and as an exercise and training coordinator. In the Tri-Cities, she staffed WEMD's first regional office and helped the division improve its ties with southeast Washington jurisdictions.

Ferruccio Crocetti was the honored guest at a surprise party and sailboat cruise June 13. Crocetti, a retired U.S. Army colonel, came to EMD in November 1996 and experienced four emergency operations center activations in his first three months of work.

Crocetti began his WEMD service as a planner in the Chemical Stock-Emergency Preparedness Program. He became the analysis and plans section supervisor in the Mitigation, Analysis and Planning Unit in 1998.

Donna Platt receives national 9-1-1 recognition

Donna Platt, manager of the Washington State 9-1-1/TTY Education Program in Seattle's Community Service Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CSCDHH), was recognized this spring as one of eight persons nationwide who significantly impacted telecommunications and media access in their communities.

The award was made by the Telecommunications for the Deaf, Inc. (TDI), a national advocacy organization that addresses equal access issues in telecommunications and media for people who are deaf, hard-of-hearing, late-deafened or deaf-blind.

Citing Platt's work on behalf of emergency preparedness, TDI noted that under her leadership the state 911/TTY Education Program established itself as a major resource for information on disaster preparedness and coping with the aftermath of a crisis.

The State E911 Program contracts with Washington State 911/TTY

Cell number display now available in many counties

Continued from page 1—

- **Inland Communications:** Grant.
- **Nextel Communications:** Clallam, Clark, Grant, Grays Harbor, King, Jefferson, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, San Juan, Spokane, Thurston, Whatcom and Yakima.
- **Qwest Wireless:** Asotin, Clark, Cowlitz, Grant, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Skagit, Snohomish, Spokane, Thurston and Walla Walla.
- **Rural Cellular Corp.:** Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Garfield, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, Walla Walla and Whitman.
- **Sprint PCS:** Chelan, Clark, Island, King, Kitsap, Kittitas, Mason, Pierce, Spokane, Thurston, Walla Walla, and Yakima.
- **T-Mobile:** Clallam, Grant, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, King, Kittitas, Lewis, San Juan and Thurston.
- **United States Cellular:** Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, Skamania, Wahkiakum and Yakima.
- **Verizon Wireless:** Clallam, Clark, Ferry, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Mason, Okanogan, Pend Oreille, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Thurston, Spokane, Stevens and Whatcom.

Updates on Phase I availability can be found at <<http://emd.wa.gov/2-e911/wireless/01-wireless-idx.htm>> after July 8.

Personnel

Fred Klauss, emergency management program supervisor for the Energy Northwest nuclear power plant at the Hanford Site, will become the Emergency Management Division's Tri-Cities program manager effective July 7. He will oversee EMD's fixed nuclear facility programs involving Energy Northwest and the U.S. Department of Energy. Klauss has worked for 25 years at positions at Energy Northwest and its predecessor agency, the Washington Public Power Supply System. He will succeed Mary Alice Peterson, who retired May 30.

Sonya Carrasquillo will join EMD July 1 as the new secretary senior in the Director's Office. She transfers to EMD from the military personnel office of the Washington Military Department and succeeds Lynn Cypher, who returns to her permanent position as EMD's front desk receptionist.



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The Washington Emergency Management Division, including the State Emergency Operations Center, is located in Building 20 on Camp Murray, located at exit 122 on Interstate 5 south of Tacoma, Washington.